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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 24, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 19 totaled an estimated 16.9 billion ton-miles, 0.8 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first three weeks of 1985 was an estimated 46.0 billion ton-miles, down 5.0 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 19 totaled 364,358, down 0.8 percent from last year, and 1.8 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 5.8 percent in the East, 1.5 percent in the South, and up 3.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 11 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. But, coal loadings were up 6,231 cars (6.4 percent), and loadings of motor vehicles and equipment rose 1,834 cars (8.8 percent). Thirteen of 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 12 totaled 49,842 cars, up 4.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1984, and 78,944 trailers and/or containers, 2.3 percent below last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first two weeks of the year was 83,633 cars, down 2.0 percent from last year, and 137,047 trailers and/or containers, down 9.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 01/19/85:

	Loadings in Week ended Jan. 19, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,970	D	3,846	12.5	D	1,459	5.1
Other farm products	5,087	I	570	12.6	I	64	1.3
Metallic ores	9,456	D	3,762	28.5	I	393	4.3
Coal	103,737	I	6,231	6.4	D	3,563	3.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,705	I	1,254	16.8	D	1,123	11.4
Nonmetallic minerals	9,103	D	2,945	24.4	D	620	6.4
Grain mill products	10,847	D	1,386	11.3	D	20	0.2
Food and kindred products	10,895	D	139	1.3	D	343	3.1
Primary forest products	13,105	I	306	2.4	D	933	6.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,853	D	137	2.0	I	53	0.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,688	I	100	0.7	I	7	0.0
Chemicals and allied products	24,900	I	405	1.7	D	98	0.4
Petroleum products	4,811	D	197	3.9	I	324	7.2
Stone, clay and glass products	9,278	I	787	9.3	D	368	3.8
Coke	5,048	I	508	11.2	I	470	10.3
Metals and products	7,722	D	1,426	15.6	D	484	5.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,736	I	1,834	8.8	D	376	1.6
Waste and scrap materials	8,899	D	1,082	10.8	D	46	0.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,399	D	1,795	21.9	I	360	6.0
All other carloads	54,987	I	1,824	3.4	I	919	1.7
LCL traffic	132	D	147	52.7	D	12	8.3
Total Cars Loaded	364,358	D	3,043	0.8	D	6,855	1.8
Corresponding week of 1984	367,401						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (3 weeks)	998,130	1,053,088	D 5.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 12	29.2	31.7	D 8.0
Week ended January 19	16.9	16.7	I 0.8
3 weeks cumulative	46.0	48.5	D 5.0

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